ORDINANCE No. 188230

* Authorize a Special Appropriation grant agreement with Volunteers of America Oregon, in an amount not to exceed \$23,658 to provide economic empowerment services to adults and children who survived domestic violence (Ordinance)

The City of Portland ordains:

Section 1. The Council finds:

- VOA offers economic empowerment services to survivors of domestic violence. Financial abuse experienced in 98% of abusive relationships, is a common tactic used to gain power and control. These tactics limit access to assets or conceal information and accessibility to family finances, control victims' access to money, destroy their credit, or interfere with their employment.
- 2. These methods of keeping a survivor trapped in an abusive relationship, deeply diminishes their ability to stay safe after leaving. To establish new lives for themselves and their children, survivors must be able to secure stable, family wage employment. However, they represent groups with the greatest difficulty of climbing out of poverty: communities of color, single mothers, and individuals with disabilities. Conventional career readiness services are unlikely to be accessible to or effective for this population in the immediate aftermath of a domestic violence situation.
- 3. Approaches must be tailored to better meet survivors' needs as they prepare to enter job training and employment. VOA recognizes the need for and effectiveness of trauma-informed financial literacy and economic empowerment services as a first step in preparing survivors to move into more conventional programs.
- 4. Volunteers of America's mission is consistent with the Council's desire for equity and inclusion, prosperous households, healthier people and a safer city.
- 5. In the current fiscal year 2016-2017, in response to client need and requests, VOA will seek to expand the project scope by introducing Economic Empowerment Seminars to include more intensive information on particular financial topics not covered during their Dollars and Sense program, such as, income taxes, credit, insurance, divorce, social security, retirement planning, advanced directives and living wills.
- 6. Volunteers of America Oregon submitted a grant application for the FY2016-17 special appropriations grants competitive process and was selected as one of the twenty to be awarded a grant.

 The FY2016-17 Budget includes funding in the General Fund Special Appropriations for the above grant. The City now desires to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with Volunteers of America (VOA) Oregon, in an amount not to exceed \$23,658.

NOW THEREFORE, The Council directs:

- a. The Mayor is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement, as outlined in a form substantially in accordance with the agreement attached as Exhibit A, at a cost not to exceed \$23,658.
- b. The Mayor and Auditor are hereby authorized to draw and deliver payment chargeable to the Fiscal Year 2016-17 Budget.

Section 2. The Council declares that an emergency exists because a delay in funding would delay Volunteers of America's (VOA) ability to reach their 2016-17 strategic goal of providing economic empowerment services to adults and children who survived domestic violence; therefore, this ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage by Council.

Passed by the Council: FEB 1 5 2017

Commissioner Prepared by: Date Prepared: Ted Wheeler Eileen Roe January 20, 2017 Mary Hull Caballero Auditor of the City of Portland

By Susan Parkon Deputy

Agenda No. ORDINANCE NO. 188230

Title

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AGENDA	FOUR-FIFTHS AGENDA	COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:		
TIME CERTAIN Start time:			YEAS	NAYS
Total amount of time needed: (for presentation, testimony and discussion)	1. Fritz	1. Fritz		
	2. Fish	2. Fish	~	
CONSENT	3. Saltzman	3. Saltzman		
	4. Eudaly	4. Eudaly		
Total amount of time needed: (for presentation, testimony and discussion)	Wheeler	Wheeler	-	